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CIA

1 JUNE 1968

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# D I A

## INTELLIGENCE SUPPLEMENT

STATUS OF INFILTRATION GROUPS

1 JAN -- 31 MAY 1968

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DIA SIG

CHIEF OF INFILTRATION GROUP

31 MAY 1968

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**STATUS OF INTILTRATION GROUPS**

**1 JAN-31 MAY 1968**

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## STATUS OF INFILTRATION GROUPS

1 JAN-31 MAY 1968

As of 31 May, 203 North Vietnamese infiltration groups with an estimated strength of 112,000 men have been noted moving south since the first of the year. Although some have recently reached South Vietnam, it will probably be several months before their arrival is reflected in COMUSMACV's monthly infiltration statistics because of the acceptance criteria.

Thirty-three of the groups, with a total strength of 12,800-17,000 have been noted in South Vietnam or Laos. It is believed that an additional 23 groups (estimated strength 11,000-14,800) detected during January-March have had time to reach their destinations in South Vietnam. Sixty more groups (estimated strength 26,300-35,100) are thought to be in Laos. The remaining 87 groups (estimated strength 45,100) are believed to be in the infiltration pipeline in North Vietnam. Most infiltration groups appear to be traveling on foot, but utilization of trucks would significantly shorten the transit time.

Arrival Projections and Attrition

In projecting estimated strengths for the infiltration groups arriving in South Vietnam, an attrition rate of approximately 25 per cent has been applied to the estimated strength of known groups. It should be noted, however, that probably not all infiltration groups have been detected moving south since 1 January; the total number of groups and personnel involved may, therefore be substantially higher. Of the 203 groups noted since 1 January, 141 fall into a series of four-digit designators listed below:

<u>Series</u>	<u>Lowest-Highest Number</u>	<u>Total Obsvd</u>	<u>Projected Nr. Groups</u>	<u>Possible Destination</u>
10XX	1000-1042	34	43	MR 5
20XX	2000-2037	32	38	3d Corps
30XX	3001-3047	18	47	B-3 Front
40XX	4002-4028	16	27	MR-TTH
70XX	7001-7036	18	36	3d Corps
90XX	9002-9049	23	48	DMZ/MR-TTH

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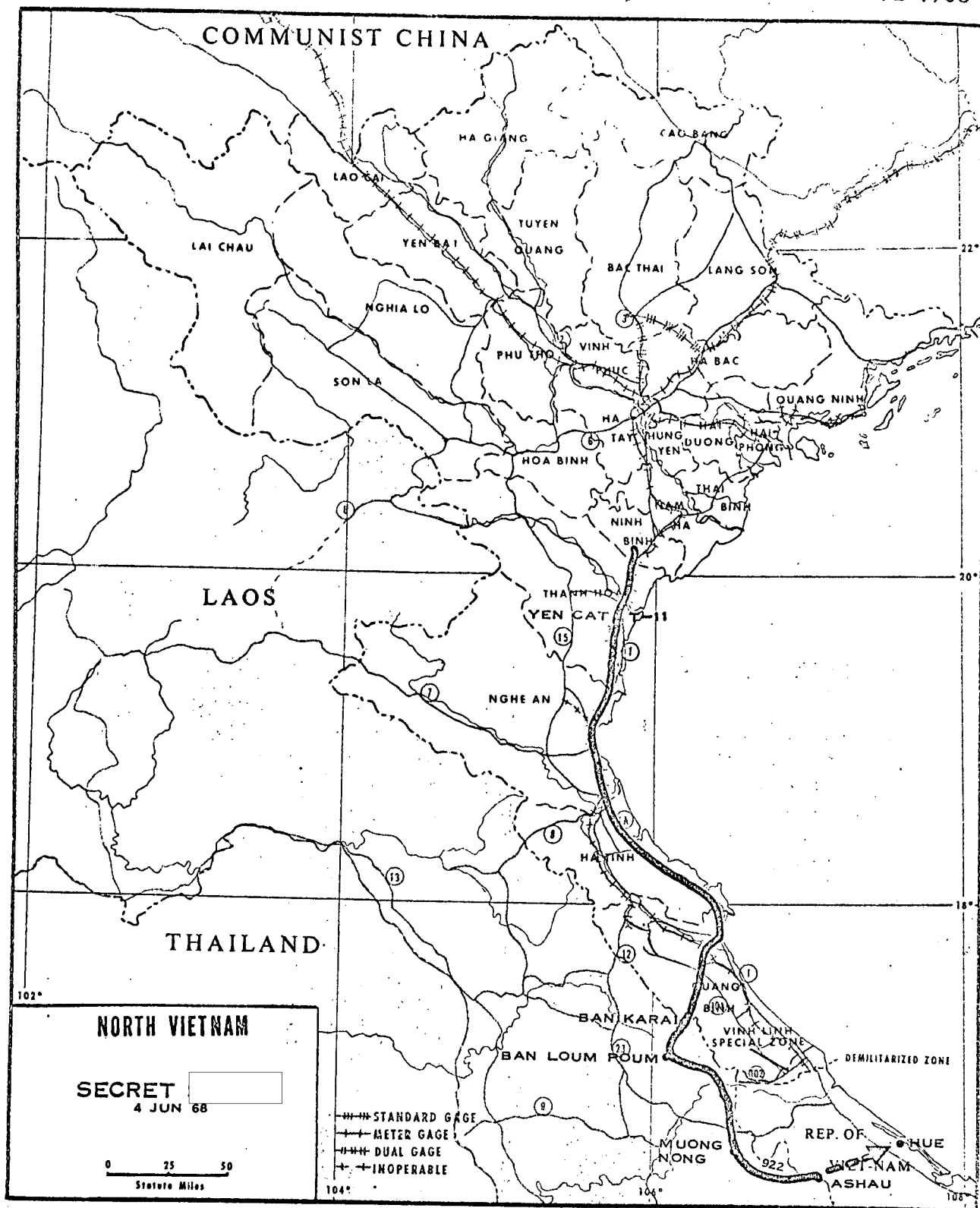
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# MOVEMENT OF INFILTRATION GROUP 4014, 13 MAR - 6 APRIL 1968



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The total number of groups obtained by assuming that undetected groups numbers within the above numerical limits exist, raises the total in these six series to 239.

COMINT has not detected some of the groups in these series. Group 4002, for example, was not detected in SIGINT but was identified by four ralliers in South Vietnam's Quang Tri Province during April after a 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ -month trek from North Vietnam. Groups within the six series continue to be noted in SIGINT; the actual number in the pipeline is, therefore, probably greater than the 141 observed to date. If it is, the number of personnel that has moved south since 1 January could be 10-15,000 higher than the currently estimated figure for arrivals in South Vietnam.

Comparison of SIGINT Observations with Collateral Information, Group 4014

Information provided by two NVA ralliers, who claim they infiltrated with Group 4014, substantiates that obtained from intercepted General Directorate of Rear Services infiltration-associated messages.

They say that the 23d Battalion of the 154th Regiment left Ninh Binh Province in North Vietnam on 13 March for South Vietnam via Laos. The battalion's infiltration number was 4014. Its three companies had a total of 250-300 troops, 17 trucks, and 12 85-mm SD-44 auxilliary-propelled divisional guns. Group 4014 was first noted in SIGINT on 16 March at kilometer marker 165, somewhere in North Vietnam; it had 15 vehicles and was associated with artillery.

The group passed through Thanh Hoa, Nghe An, Ha Tinh, and Quang Binh Provinces and entered Laos -- probably through the Ban Karai Pass -- on 31 March. On 17 March SIGINT detected the group en route to T-11 near Yen Cat in Thanh Hoa Province. Messages intercepted on 21 March indicated that the group was resting at A-3 in North Vietnam.

The ralliers claim the group convoy turned south at the Ban Loum Poum junction in Laos and continued past route 9 to Muong Nong on Route 92. By 7 April,

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## ESTIMATED PRESENT LOCATION AND POSSIBLE DESTINATION OF INFILTRATION GROUPS

POSS. DESTINATION	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	TOTALS
DMZ - MR TTH	5/3, 100	1/600	10/5, 200	7/4, 500		30/17, 300
MR - TTH	1/600	1/600	6/3, 300	6/3, 900	5/4, 000	19/11, 400
MR - 5	1/600	4/2, 200	10/5, 200	13/8, 500	11/3, 300	39/22, 000
B - 3 FRONT	2/1, 200	2/1, 100	7/3, 600	4/2, 600	5/4, 000	21/10, 500
III CORPS	13/8, 100	1/600	11/5, 700	21/13, 200	20/11, 000	66/39, 100
UNKNOWN		1/500	10/5, 200	6/3, 500	11/3, 100	28/11, 700
TOTALS	22/13, 600	10/5, 600	54/28, 200	57/37, 100	60/27, 500	203/112, 000

## GROUPS

NR	EST STRENGTH
5	/ 3,100

EXPLANATION OF FORMAT  
SHOWING NUMBER AND  
STRENGTH OF GROUPS

- ☐ GROUPS ESTIMATED TO BE IN SVN
- ☐ GROUPS ESTIMATED TO BE IN LAOS
- ☐ GROUPS ESTIMATED TO BE IN NVN (IN TRANSIT SOUTH)

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most of the convoy was 80 kilometers southeast of Muong Nong, probably on Route 922. SIGINT located 4014 at kilometer marker 14 on Route 922 near B-45 west of the A Shau Valley on 6 April.

The two ralliers had been told that the group would proceed to Con Thien and Hue in South Vietnam's Thua Thien Province.

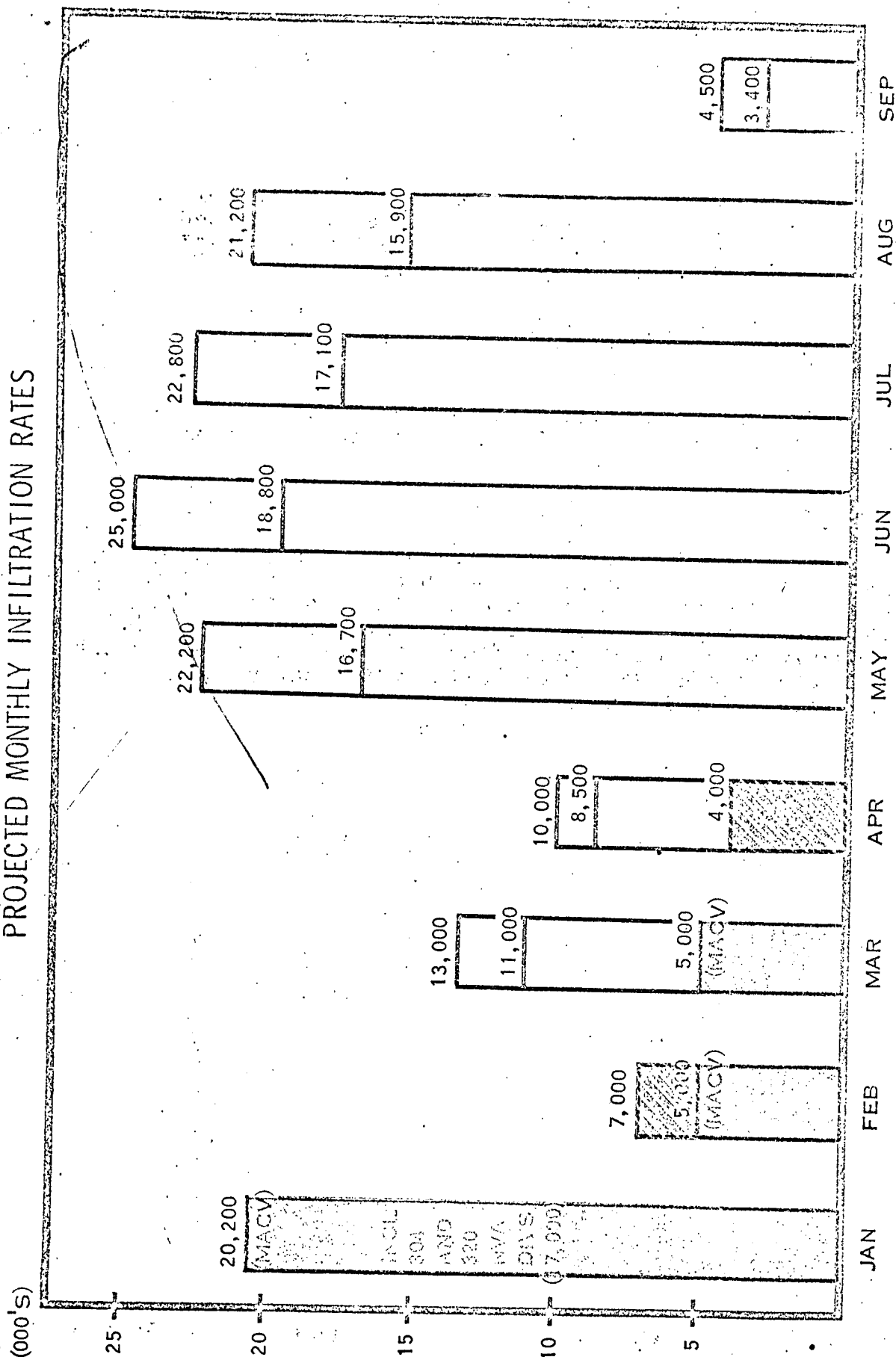
This is the second time that collateral sources have confirmed SIGINT information on an infiltration group.

Summary

As of 31 May, 203 North Vietnamese infiltration groups with an estimated strength of 112,000 men had been noted moving south since the first of the year. The totals may be higher because some groups have probably moved south undetected. Collateral intelligence indicates a high degree of validity for early COMINT analysis. (SECRET [REDACTED])

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## PROJECTED MONTHLY INFILTRATION RATES



☐ 1967  
ACCEPTED/POSS MACV - BASED ON GROUPS DEPARTING NVN LATE 1967

☐ 1968  
ESTIMATED ARRIVAL STRENGTH - BASED ON GROUPS DETECTED SINCE 1 JAN 1968

☐ ESTIMATED ARRIVAL STRENGTH - BASED ON GROUPS DETECTED MOVING SOUTH IN NOV - DEC.

☐ ESTIMATED ATTRITION

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(LTGEN HUGH M. EXTON)	1 cy
USARPAC	1 cy
CINCPAC	6 cys
CINCPACAF	1 cy
CINCPACFLT	1 cy
CINCSAC	1 cy
COMUSKOREA	1 cy
COMUSMACV	6 cys
COMUSMACTHAI	4 cys
ANMCC	1 cy
NEACP	1 cy
NECPA	2 cys
DIADR	1 cy
DIADD	1 cy
DIACS	1 cy
DIAPL	1 cy
DIASO	6 cys

<b>TRANSMITTAL SLIP</b>		DATE <i>13 June 68</i>
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REMARKS: <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 150px; height: 30px; margin: 5px 0;"></div> <i>and</i> <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 180px; height: 30px; margin: 5px 0;"></div> <i>and DIA are making  charges - minor and  editorial according to Molly -  to the piece I coordinated  lost night. I will see it  and also get for you the  Hulaffey piece</i>		
FROM: <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 200px; height: 20px; display: inline-block;"></div>		
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